

MORE PAGES OF STORIES!

APRIL NO. 39

LASH LARUE

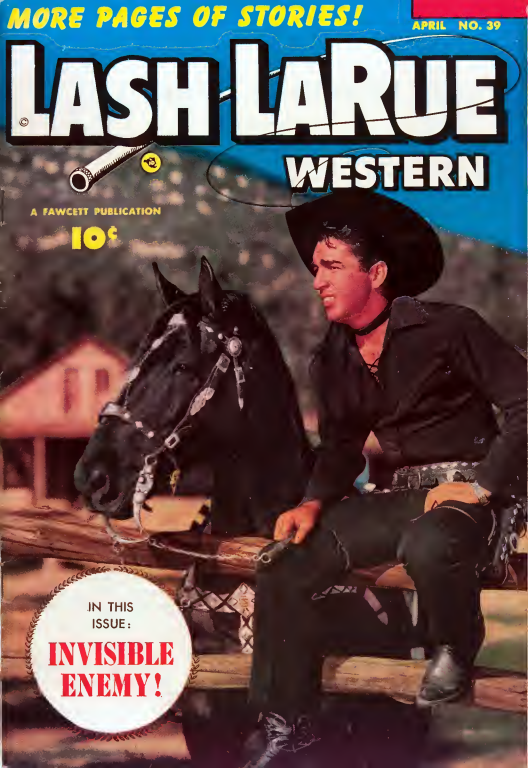
WESTERN

A FAWCETT PUBLICATION

10¢

IN THIS
ISSUE:

**INVISIBLE
ENEMY!**





PEACEFUL PERCY

By Westbrook Wilson



THE TOWN was named "Lawless." And with good reason. That is, until Peaceful Percy became sheriff. Then some of the wild bunch began calling it "Creampuff City." It was this same wild bunch that had also hung the nickname, "Peaceful Percy" on the tall, gangling hombre who wore the silver star on his vest. His real handle was John J. Brickhouse, but nobody ever called him that and, in fact, few even knew that was his name. They called him Percy—behind his back at first, and then, when they got up the nerve, right to his face.

He didn't mind. He had a saying,

"Guns and lead

May strike me dead,

But names will never hurt me!"

When Peaceful Percy first rode into Lawless City, Main Street was deserted, except for two of the shootingest hombres east or west of the Rockies. They were Hogleg Hank and Trigger Tumulty, each of whom had vowed to gun the other down at high noon. They were standing at either end of Main Street, ready to pour lead into each other. All the sensible people were lying on roof tops or under porches where they could get a good view of the match without any danger.

They were amazed, startled, shocked and baffled when Percy suddenly rode right in between the two gunmen and said, "I'm the new sheriff. Drop your hardware, gents."

Nobody could talk to Hogleg Hank and Trigger Tumulty like that. Instead of dropping their guns, they aimed at the new sheriff. And Percy, calm as you please, whipped a Colt out of each of his holsters and fired two shots, bang! bang!

With his left-hand shot, he nipped the gun out of Hogleg's hand. With his right-hand shot, he blazed lead that burst the barrel of Trigger's weapon. Then he drawled, "Now if you two boys have any more guns on you, toss

'em down in the dust. I speak in the name of the law!"

Nobody could talk to Hogleg and Trigger like that. Nobody but Peaceful Percy. Trigger hauled out two more guns and Hogleg three. They tossed them on the ground.

"Now you two step over here and shake hands. I want you to be friends," suggested Percy. Hogleg stuck out his tongue at Trigger, and Trigger spat on the ground. Peaceful Percy twirled his two guns and thundered, "Shake hands!"

Grudgingly they obeyed. Hogleg snarled, "You got the drop on us, lawman, an' I'm disarmed. Otherwise I wouldn't touch this varmint with a wagon tongue."

"Likewise," snapped Trigger, cordially.

The long, tall, gangling sheriff grinned and his eyes twinkled. "You are right, boys, I've got the upper hand. And I aim to keep it. And I aim to have you two helping me. I hereby swear you both in as deputies. Step forward and I'll pin badges on your chests."

Both gunmen grumbled and growled and said they'd be danged if they would be snoopy lawmen. Percy went calmly about the business of pinning on the stars and talking to them like a Dutch Uncle. "You boys are disarmed so you haven't got a thing to say about it. I don't aim to let either one of you get a hand on another gun as long as I'm sheriff. And I intend to be sheriff for a long, long time."

Hogleg and Trigger looked at each other. They'd been mortal enemies only a few minutes before. But now they seemed to find a bond in their predicament. They were friends, sort of, because they both hated the new sheriff.

Trigger winked at Hogleg before he spoke. "So now we're deputies, Sheriff. But how can we enforce the law without guns?"

"Yeh. How?" echoed Hogleg.

Peaceful Percy was nonchalant. He drawled, "That's easy. Nobody in the whole town is

(Continued on inside back cover)



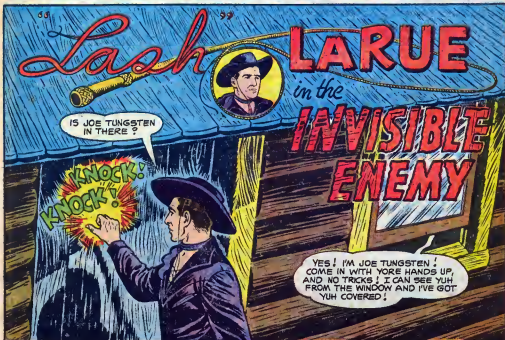
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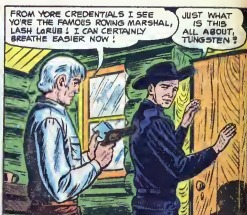
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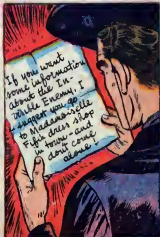
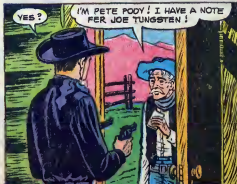
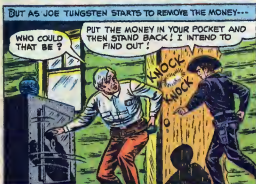
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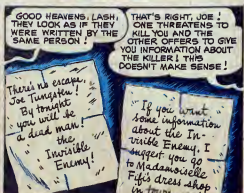
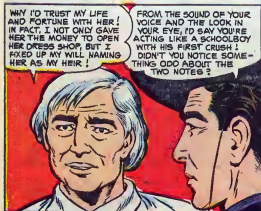
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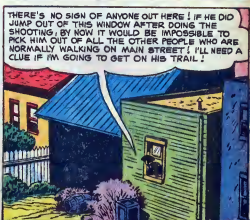
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THAT'S ODD! YOU CAN'T SEE THE FRONT DOOR OR EVEN JOE TUNGSTEN'S BODY FROM HERE! TUNGSTEN COULDN'T HAVE BEEN SHOT FROM HERE UNLESS HE HAD WALKED IN FRONT OF THESE PEEP SIGHTS, AND I KNOW HE NEVER DID THAT! THESE PEEP HOLES AND THAT GUN OPENING MUST HAVE BEEN PUT HERE JUST TO THROW THE LAW OFF THE TRACK! BUT IF TUNGSTEN WASN'T SHOT FROM HERE, HOW WAS THE MURDER COMMITTED?



MAYBE IF I COULD FIND OUT WHY THE MURDER WAS COMMITTED, I'D HAVE THE ANSWER TO HOW, ALSO; OF COURSE MADAMOISELLE FIM HAS A GOOD MOTIVE ---TUNGSTEN'S WILL! BUT I KNOW SHE DIDN'T SHOOT HIM, AS I HAD MY EYE ON HER ALL THE TIME ---UNLESS SHE HAD A GUN RIGGED UP TO THE DOOR!



BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE EITHER! THE NOTE SAID FOR TUNGSTEN TO COME WITH SOMEONE ELSE AND IF SHE HAD A GUN RIGGED UP TO THE DOOR, HOW COULD SHE TELL WHO'D ENTER FIRST! THE SECOND PARTY MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLED BY MISTAKE!

YOU LOOK PUZZLED, MARSHAL! IS SOMETHING WRONG?



FOR THE TIME BEING I THINK I'LL BE BETTER OFF SAYING NOTHING!

IT'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY YOUR PRETTY HEAD ABOUT!



NOW IF YOU'LL GET A SHEET OR A BLANKET TO COVER THE BODY, I'LL REMOVE JOE'S BELONGINGS FROM HIS POCKETS AND TURN THEM OVER TO THE LAWYER TO ADD TO HIS INHERITANCE!

I WILL DO THAT IMMEDIATELY! POOR MEESTER TUNGSTEN! (SOS)



BUT AS THE ROVING MARSHAL GOES THROUGH TUNGSTEN'S POCKETS---

TUNGSTEN'S POCKETS ARE EMPTY! BUT I SAW HIM PUT THE MONEY IN THEM! EITHER SOMEONE SNEAKED IN HERE AND EMPTIED THEM OUT WHILE WE WERE NEXT DOOR, OR---



---THE KILLER WAS IN THIS ROOM ALL ALONG! BUT THAT DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE! THERE ISN'T A SINGLE SPOT WHERE ANYONE COULD HIDE IN THIS ROOM!



IF YOU'LL GO NOTIFY THE UNDERTAKER, I'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING ELSE AS SOON AS I GET BACK ! I HAVE ONE CHORE THAT HAS TO BE DONE FIRST AND THEN I'LL TAKE OVER !



SHORTLY AFTER, AT THE TOWN'S OTHER DRESSMAKER---

BUT WHY ARE YOU SO INTERESTED IN A DRESSMAKER'S DUMMY ?

I'D LIKE TO GET ONE FOR A FRIEND OF MINE ! ARE THEY ALL MADE LIKE THIS ? AREN'T THERE SOME WHICH HAVE MATERIAL ALL THE WAY DOWN ?



NO ! MATERIAL ALL THE WAY DOWN WOULDN'T SERVE ANY PURPOSE ! BUT OF COURSE IF YUH WANTED ONE LIKE THAT, I COULD HAVE IT MADE UP SPECIAL FER YUH !

I'LL HAVE TO FIND OUT EXACTLY WHAT MY FRIEND LIKES AND LET YOU KNOW ! THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, MAM !



SHORTLY AFTER---

I KNOW THIS WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY, MADAMOISELLE FIFI ! I KNOW WHO KILLED JOE TUNGSTEN !

YOU DO ?



THE THING THAT I HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT IS JUST HOW THE MURDER WAS COMMITTED BUT THAT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG ! I'LL BE BACK IN ABOUT AN HOUR AND TELL YOU EVERYTHING.

PLEASE DO ZAT ! I AM MOST ANXIOUS TO KNOW !



PETE ! WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DOLLAIRE DELIVERING A MESSAGE FOR ME ?

I SURE WOULD, MAM !

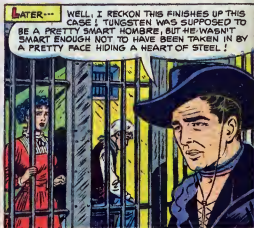
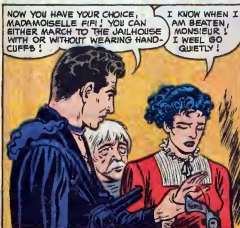
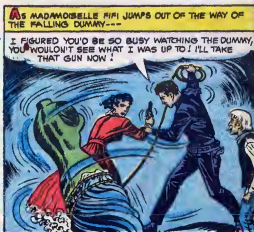


THE WAY THINGS ARE SHAPING UP, I THINK I'LL BE BACK IN LESS THAN AN HOUR !









The **MIGHTIEST** and the **GREATEST!**

ACTION!

LAUGHS!

ADVENTURE!

**DON'T WALK!
DON'T RUN!**

FLY TO YOUR NEAREST NEWSSTAND!



10¢

EVERYWHERE

DUSTY

THE AIM WITH THE PAIN

BUSBY'S
GENERAL STORE

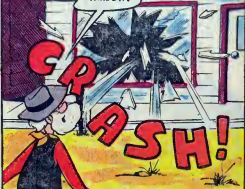


I OPINE I'LL TEST MY PITCHING ARM
AND SEE IF I CAN HIT THAT HITCHING POST
ACROSS THE STREET IN FRONT OF BUSBY'S
GENERAL STORE!

HYAR GOES A PERFECT
BULL'S-EYE!



(GULP!) I MISSED--- BUT
I DIDN'T MISS BUSBY'S
WINDOW!



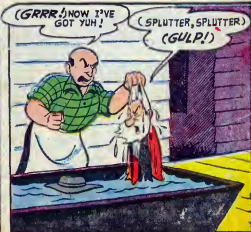
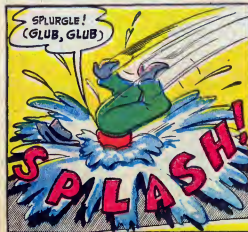
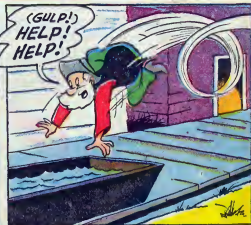
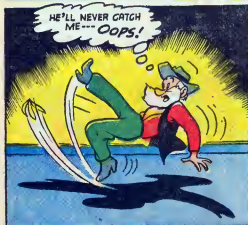
WHAT THE---(GRRR!) SOME NO-GOOD
VARMINT THREW A ROCK AT MY WINDOW
AND BROKE IT! IF I CATCH THE MISERABLE
MAVERICK WHO DID IT, I'LL BREAK
HIS JAW!

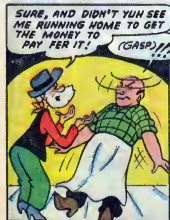


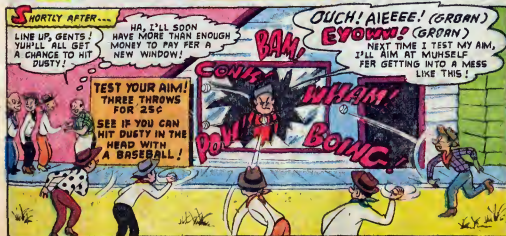
OH, OH! HYAR COMES
BIG, BURLY BUSBY
AFTER ME!

OH, IT WAS DUSTY
WHO DID THE DAMAGE!
WELL, HE WON'T GET
AWAY WITH IT!





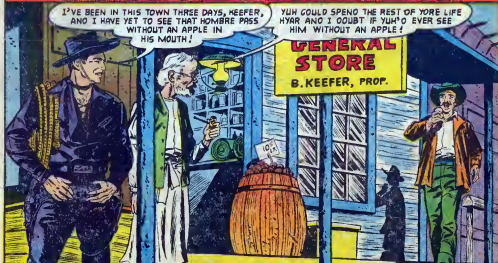




Lash LARUE



in The APPLE MYSTERY



I'VE BEEN IN THIS TOWN THREE DAYS, KEEFER, AND I HAVE YET TO SEE THAT HOMBRE PASS WITHOUT AN APPLE IN HIS MOUTH!

YUH COULD SPEND THE REST OF YORE LIFE HYAR AND I DOUBT IF YUH'O EVER SEE HIM WITHOUT AN APPLE!

THAT'S APPLES CLARK! HE EATS APPLES FER BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER AND THEN MUNCHES ON A FEW IN BETWEEN MEALS FER A LIGHT SNACK!

IF AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY, I PITY POOR CLARK'S DOCTOR! HE'LL STARVE TO DEATH!

BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT...

THAT'S APPLES CLARK'S WAGON, ALL RIGHT! JUST WAIT TILL HE RIDES OFF! I'LL FIX HIM!

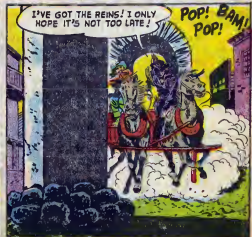
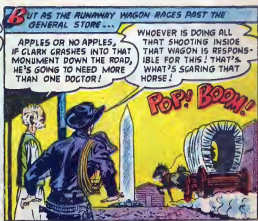
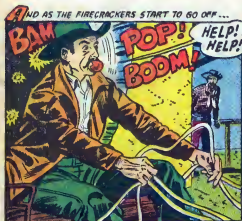
EVER SINCE HE FIRED ME OFF HIS RANCH FER DRINKING, NO ONE IN TOWN WILL GIVE ME A JOB! I INTEND TO PAY APPLES CLARK BACK FER THAT!

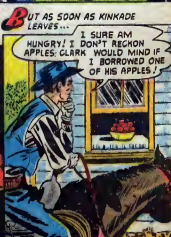
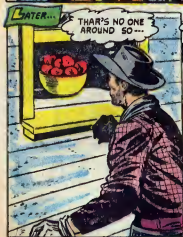
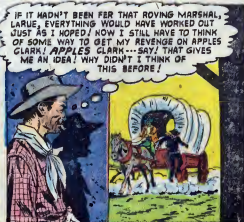
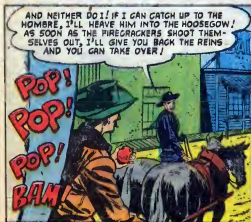
HYAR HE COMES NOW! I BETTER GET OUT OF SIGHT! I DON'T WANT HIM TO SEE ME!

AND AS APPLES CLARK RIDES OFF...

THIS SHOULD DO THE TRICK! I KNOW THAT OLD HORSE OF HIS IS GUN SHY SO THESE FIRE-CRACKERS SHOULD START HIM STEPPING!







AND WHEN APPLES CLARK GETS BACK TO HIS RANCH...

HEY, SAM, WHAT HAPPENED?

YIPES! HE'S DEAD!
I RECHON I'D BETTER
GET THE MARSHAL!

THAT'S NO BULLET WOUND
NOR ANY OTHER KIND OF
MARK ON HIM SO I RECHON
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A
HEART ATTACK THAT
KILLED HIM!

THAT'S VERY
POSSIBLE,
CLARK! BUT
CONSIDERING
HE'S SO YOUNG,
I THINK IT
WOULD BE AD-
VISABLE TO HAVE
THE CORNER MAKE
AN AUTOPSY!

LATER...
WELL, I PERFORMED THE AUTOPSY,
LASH, AND YUH WERE RIGHT! THAT
JASPER DIDN'T DIE FROM ANY NATURAL
CAUSES---HE WAS POISONED! AND
IT LOOKS MIGHTY BAD FER
APPLES CLARK!

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN,
IT LOOKS
BAD FOR
APPLES
CLARK?

I FOUND TRACES OF A POISONED
APPLE IN THE DEAD MAN'S STOMACH!
IT LOOKS AS IF CLARK POISONED
AN APPLE AND GAVE IT TO
HIS HELPER!

I DON'T
AGREE
WITH YOU,
CORNER!
CLARK WOULDN'T
BE THAT STUPID!
AFTER ALL, HE
KNOWS EVERYBODY
IN TOWN CONNECTS
HIM WITH
APPLES!

THE POISON USED WORKED
INSTANTANEOUSLY! THAT MEANS
THE COWBOY HAD TO GET THE
APPLE EITHER DIRECTLY OR
INDIRECTLY FROM CLARK!
IF YUH DON'T THINK
APPLES CLARK DID IT,
WHO DO YUH THINK
IS GUILTY?

WOULD
YOU KNOW IF
CLARK HAD ANY
ENEMIES?

LET ME SEE---YES,
HE DOES HAVE ONE
ENEMY THAT I KNOW
OF! HE FIRED A
JASPER NAMED
KINKAOE WHO
THREATENED TO
GET EVEN WITH
HIM!

DO YOU KNOW
WHERE I CAN FIND
THIS KINKAOE?
HE MIGHT HAVE
POISONED THE
APPLE AND LEFT IT
AMONG THE OTHER
APPLES IN CLARK'S
PLACE, FIGURING THAT
CLARK WOULD BE
BOUND TO EAT IT!

MEANWHILE...

THAT GOES CLARK!
MAYBE HE'S EATING THE
POISONED APPLE I LEFT
FER HIM AND HE'LL DROP
DEAD RIGHT IN FRONT OF
ME--- WHICH REMINDS
ME!

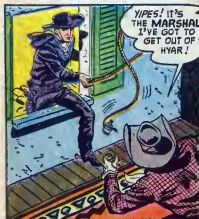
I'D BETTER GET RID OF THIS POISON JUST IN CASE ANYONE GETS NOSY AFTER CLARK DIES! WITHOUT THIS POISON THEY COULDN'T PROVE I HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT!



I'LL JUST POUR IT DOWN THE SINK!



YIPES! IT'S THE MARSHAL! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HYAR!



THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY YOU'RE LEAVING HERE---



LATER...

WITH MINKADE IN JAIL I CAN REST EASY, LASH! I'M ONLY SORRY I COULDN'T REWARD YUH IN ANY BETTER FASHION!

YOU GAVE ME THE GREATEST REWARD I COULD EXPECT---



---BOTH RUSH AND I JUST LOVE APPLES!





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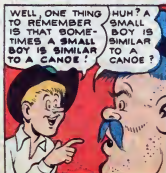
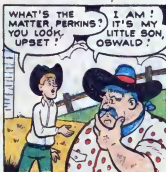
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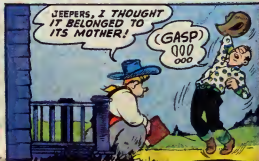
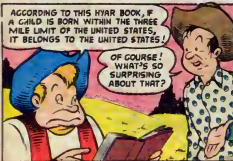
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MOLASSES MOUTH



HE JUST DOESN'T BELONG!



Lash LARUE



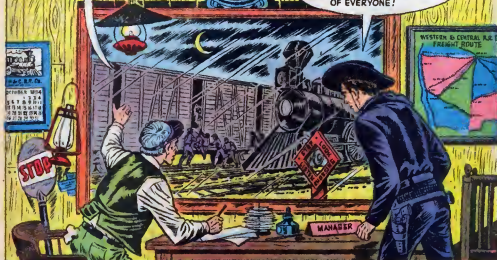
in

FUTURE'S PERIL!

NOW YUH CAN SEE WHY I SENT FERY YUH, LASH! THERE GOES ANOTHER BATCH OF KIDS SNEAKING INTO AN EMPTY FREIGHT TRAIN! SINCE MOST OF THOSE KIDS ARE HOMELESS AND PENNILESS, I HATE TO CHASE THEM AWAY, BUT IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO THEM THE RAILROAD WOULD BE BLAMED! WHAT'S TO BE DONE IN THIS MATTER?



I'M AFRAID I HAVEN'T GOT THE ANSWER TO A PROBLEM AS BIG AS THAT! SINCE THE CHILDREN OF TODAY ARE THE CITIZENS OF TOMORROW, HOMELESS CHILDREN SHOULD BE THE PROBLEM OF EVERYONE!



LEGALLY THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO CLIMB INTO THAT BOXCAR! IF YOU WANT ME TO, I'LL CHASE THEM AWAY!

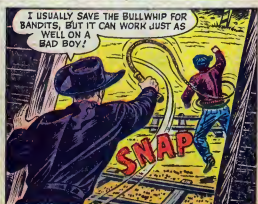
IF WE CHASE THIS BATCH AWAY, THERE'LL BE ANOTHER BATCH TOMORROW! I RECKON I MIGHT AS WELL GO ON AS I HAVE BEEN DOING AND MAKE BELIEVE THAT I DIDN'T SEE THEM!

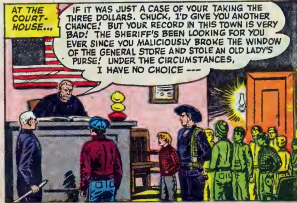
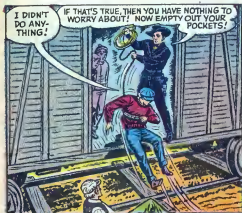


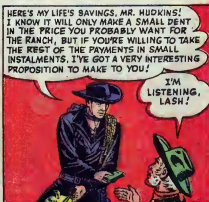
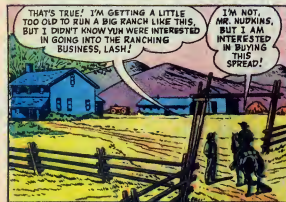
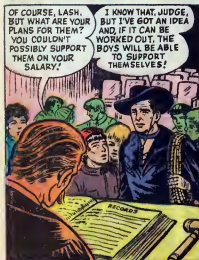
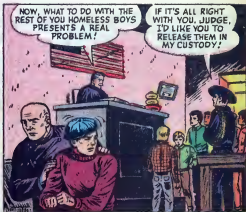
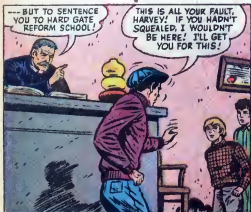
SUDDENLY...

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A FIGHT! I RECKON WE'D BETTER HAVE A LOOK!









AND AFTER THE ROVING MARSHAL
EXPLAINS HIS PLAN...

--- I NOT ONLY ACCEPT YORE PROPOSITION,
LASH, BUT I'M WILLING TO CONSIDER YORE
DOWN PAYMENT AS FULL PAYMENT FER THE
SPREAD, PROVIDING I CAN STAY ON AS
ONE OF THE SUPERVISORS!

IT'S A DEAL,
MR. HUDKINS!

A FEW WEEKS LATER...

WELL, WHAT DO
YOU THINK,
MAYOR?

IT'S
UNBELIEVABLE---

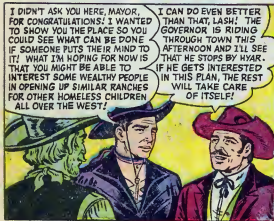
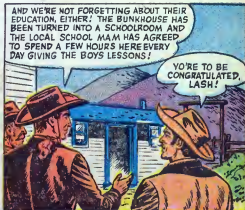
BAR-BO-BOY

--- BUT **WONDERFUL!**
A ONE HUNDRED PER
CENT BOYS' RANCH
FER HOMELESS
BOYS!

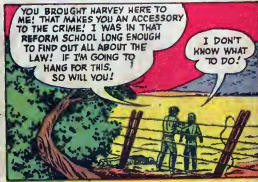
LASH DESERVES ALL THE CREDIT FER
THE IDEA! BY GIVING THESE BOYS A
PLACE TO GROW UP WHAR THEY CAN
DEVELOP HEALTHY BODIES AND HEALTHY
MINDS, HE HAS GUARANTEED THAT
THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY
WILL BE IN GOOD HANDS!

NATURALLY; WE CAN'T EXPECT THE
RANCH TO BE AS PROFITABLE AS IF
EXPERIENCED JASPER'S WERE RUNNING
IT, BUT THE LITTLE WE MAKE FROM
THE BOYS DOING ALL THE CHORES
SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO SUPPORT
THE BOYS' RANCH!



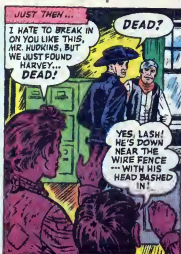








ARE YOU SURE?
POSITIVE, LASH!
I NEVER KEEP IT
ANYPLACE ELSE
BUT IN THIS
DRAWER!



JUST THEN...

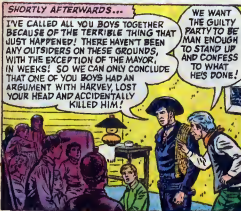
I HATE TO BREAK IN
ON YOU LIKE THIS,
MR. HUDKINS, BUT
WE JUST FOUND
HARVEY...
DEAD!

DEAD?

YES, LASH!
HE'S DOWN
NEAR THE
WIRE FENCE
--- WITH HIS
HEAD BASHED
IN!



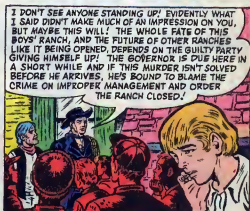
WE'D BETTER
GO SEE!



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...

I'VE CALLED ALL YOU BOYS TOGETHER
BECAUSE OF THE TERRIBLE THING THAT
JUST HAPPENED! THERE HAVEN'T BEEN
ANY OUTSIDERS ON THESE GROUNDS,
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE MAYOR,
IN WEEKS! SO WE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE
THAT ONE OF YOU BOYS HAD AN
ARGUMENT WITH HARVEY, LOST
YOUR HEAD AND ACCIDENTALLY
KILLED HIM!

WE WANT
THE GUILTY
PARTY TO BE
MAN ENOUGH
TO STAND UP
AND CONFESS
TO WHAT
HE'S DONE!



I DON'T SEE ANYONE STANDING UP! EVIDENTLY WHAT
I SAID DIDN'T MAKE MUCH OF AN IMPRESSION ON YOU,
BUT MAYBE THIS WILL! THE WHOLE FATE OF THIS
BOYS' RANCH, AND THE FUTURE OF OTHER RANCHES
LIKE IT BEING OPENED, DEPENDS ON THE GUILTY PARTY
GIVING HIMSELF UP! THE GOVERNOR IS DUE HERE IN
A SHORT WHILE AND IF THIS MURDER ISN'T SOLVED
BEFORE HE ARRIVES, HE'S BOUND TO BLAME THE
CRIME ON IMPROPER MANAGEMENT AND ORDER
THE RANCH CLOSED!

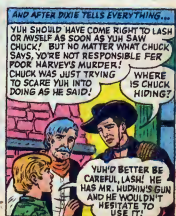


THIS RANCH IS THE BEST THING
THAT EVER HAPPENED TO A
HOMELESS KID LIKE ME! I DON'T
WANT TO SEE THE WHOLE IDEA
GO UP IN SMOKE --- BUT I DON'T
WANT TO HANG! WHAT
SHOULD I DO?



I'M THE
PARTY
YOU'RE
LOOKING
FOR, LASH!

I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT,
DIXIE! NOW I'D LIKE
TO GET THE WHOLE
STORY! START AT
THE BEGINNING!



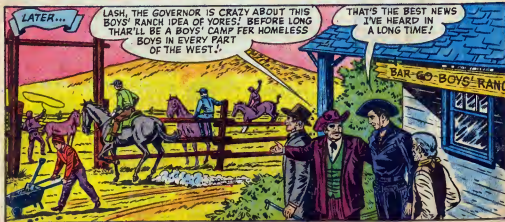
AND AFTER DIXIE TELLS EVERYTHING...

YUH SHOULD HAVE COME RIGHT TO LASH
OR MYSELF AS SOON AS YUH SAW
CHUCK! BUT NO MATTER WHAT CHUCK
SAYS, YOU'RE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR
POOR HARVEY'S MURDER!
CHUCK WAS JUST TRYING
TO SCARE YUH INTO
DOING AS HE SAID!

WHERE
IS CHUCK
HIDING?

YUH'D BETTER BE
CAREFUL, LASH! HE
HAS MR. HUDKINS' GUN
AND HE WOULDN'T
HESITATE TO
USE IT!

LASH LARUE WESTERN



PEACEFUL PERCY

(Continued from inside front cover)

going to have a gun. I aim to have all firearms tossed into deep gorge. You boys look husky—you can enforce the law without weapons."

Hogleg and Trigger looked at each other as if they thought the new sheriff was loco. They were even more sure of it when Peaceful Percy bellowed, "All you cowards that are hiding on roofs and under porches watching all this—throw down your guns!"

Some of the watchers were so startled, they threw out their weapons right away. But "Come Seven" Reno, the gambler, raised his rifle over the edge of the Casino roof and drew a bead on Percy. "A lawman like that has to die afore he discomboobalates our whole set-up," said Reno, to himself.

Percy must've caught the glint of the rifle barrel sideways out of his eye. He flipped a shot upward and it crashed the gun plumb out of Reno's hands. After that, everybody in town kind of hurried to toss their guns into the dusty street.

And then Percy did the thing that really amazed everybody more than they'd ever been amazed before. He ordered Reno down off the roof and pinned a deputy badge on *him!*

"Some lawman *he'll* make!" grumbled the few good citizens. "Why a gambler like Reno don't have no more respect for the law than if it was a dead toadfrog!"

Well, afore he was done, Percy had signed on a dozen of the hardest characters in the whole town as his deputies. And he wouldn't allow any one of 'em to be armed with much as a slingshot. That's when the wild bunch began calling him Peaceful Percy and changing the name of the town to Creampuff City.

The ordinarily peaceable people of Lawless like the banker, the storekeeper, the postmaster and so forth, were a mite on edge at first. They didn't like the idea of having a dozen hardcase deputies. But with no guns, the town began to get real peaceful. Nobody was afraid of getting shot, so they all went about their business

with zeal. Soon the town was booming, business doubled, everyone was making plenty of money. Even the gunless deputies prospered.

One day the sheriff called them all together. Peaceful Percy said, "You boys have done right well as deputies. You've kept peace and order around this town. Lawless is no longer lawless. And you've done it all without guns or weapons of any kind. I'm especially proud of Hogleg, Trigger and Reno."

"Well, I tell you. Before I came here, you all were the most feared men around. That was because you were gunslicks. Now, as deputies, you are still feared, but respected. And you've all turned honest. It's downright noble!"

All the deputies glowered at the sheriff.

Peaceful Percy continued, "I know you all hate me. You figure that since I've got guns and you haven't, that gives me an advantage. Well, I'm going to give you your advantage!" He drew one Colt from his holster and tossed it at Hogleg. He flipped out the second six-gun and handed it to Trigger. He got a rifle out of his saddle boot and gave it to Reno.

"Now you boys can use me for target practice," he said.

The hardcase deputies were too startled to shoot.

"But," continued the sheriff, "I got a tip that the Purple Gang is coming in to take over Creampuff City. If you boys have any pride, you'll finish them off before you get me!"

It was amazing. Hogleg yelled, "We're with you, Sheriff!" Trigger hollered, "We'll stop the Purple Gang cold!" Reno said, "Sheriff, take back the rifle—you're a better shot than I am!"

Well, the rest of the story is short. Those hardcase deputies gave the Purple Gang what-for and saved Creampuff City. Then, instead of shooting down Peaceful Percy, they all turned their guns over to him. Hogleg seemed to be speaking for all of them when he said, "You've just got to admire a *real* man!"

THE END



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